



ITW

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Satoshi IYANAGI et al.

Group Art Unit: 1791

Application No.: 10/523,686

Examiner: G. KNABLE

Filed: August 11, 2005

Docket No.: 122653

For: TIRE BUILDING DRUM AND TIRE BUILDING METHOD

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the June 27, 2008 Election of Species Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Species I, drawn to a true building drum/method including a single core body in the drum, with traverse.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-16 and 22-30 read on Species I and that claims 1-7 and 22-24 are generic.

Applicants respectfully submit that a complete evaluation of whether all species relate to at least a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 cannot be determined until the Examiner fully explains how Mallory, U.S. Patent No. 4,007,081, reads on the claims.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden.

See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire

application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Election of Species Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: July 25, 2008

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